

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 22, and continuing to page 6, line 6, with the following:*

The method may advantageously be used for a variety of purposes, for example in the retraining of a trainable data classifier that has already been trained using a plurality of data vectors making up a training data set. Association coefficients of a new data vector with one or more of the data vectors of the training data set may be used to form measures of conflict between the new data vector and the vectors of the training data set. These measures of conflict may then be used, for example, to decide whether the new data vector should be added to the training data set or used to retrain the trainable data classifier, or whether one or more vectors of the training data set should be discarded if the new data vector is added. Conveniently, such decisions may be based on a comparison of the measures of a conflict with a predetermined threshold. This use of the method is more extensively discussed in copending U.S. patent application 09/772,116, entitled "Retraining Trainable Data Classifiers," filed on the same date as the present application, the contents of which is-are included herein by reference.